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Natural Outlook

See Also:

[Past Issues](#)

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Natural Outlook is the TNRCC's quarterly publication of environmental issues in Texas. Below is the Web version of the Fall 2001 issue for your viewing.

Fall 2001 Issue

[Taking Stock of Used Tires](#)

TNRCC maps plans to reduce accumulated scrap tires

Texas has no shortage of used tires—the 24 million discarded by motorists each year total a little more than the state population. Fortunately, most scrap tires find end uses, such as fuel, filtering materials, or recycled products.

However, Texas still has problems with millions of used tires that were shredded in the 1990s and left to accumulate. Using new state appropriations, the TNRCC has begun cleaning up two of the largest stockpiles.



[Clean Air Incentives](#)

To encourage use of cleaner burning vehicles and equipment, the state is offering financial incentives to the public and private sectors. The Texas Emissions Reduction Plan provides grants and rebates for the purchase or lease of new heavy-duty and light-duty vehicles and construction equipment. The TERP is administered by the TNRCC with the help of other state and academic organizations.



[Harnessing the Sun Gets a Warm Reception in the Chilly Panhandle](#)

Panhandle resident Jimmie D. Walker appreciates the value of simple things—for example, the rays of the sun and inexpensive building supplies. That's the secret behind his low-cost solar-powered heating system, which warms a good many homes and buildings during the winter months.

[Tracking New Laws](#)

The TNRCC now provides a way to track the implementation of new state environmental laws. Visitors to the agency's Web site can follow the TNRCC's progress in adopting new rules and changing operating procedures. Most of the new laws will be implemented by September 2002.

[Update on Water Quality Projects](#)

The TNRCC continues work on projects to restore surface water quality, addressing pollution in 125 bodies of water in fiscal 2001.



The above information is also published as TNRCC print publication PD-020/01-04.

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